

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/668,352

Applicant(s)

CHIU ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Prabodh M. Dharja

2629

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 05-23-2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-6, 14-16, 24-26 and 34-36.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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1. **Status:** Please all the replies and correspondence should be addressed to Examiner's new art unit 2629. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted on 05-23-2007 under amendments, which have been placed of record in the file. Claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 are pending in this action. Claims 1-3,7-13,17-23,27-33, and 37-40 are cancelled.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendments filed on 05-23-2007, does not introduce new matter into the disclosure. The added material, which is supported by the original disclosure. The amendments are to expedite allowability of instant application by canceling all the rejected claims 1-3,7-13,17-23,27-33, and 37-40, as all the pending claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 were allowed before.

3. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-3,7-13,17-23,27-33, and 37-40 to overcome prior art rejection and expedite allowability of the instant application as claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 were allowed before. Applicant's arguments, see Remark, filed on 03-12-2007 and 05-23-2007, regarding "a first pattern on said panel for representing a mode switch to switch said touchpad between a key mode and a handwriting mode; a plurality of regions defined on said panel; and a plurality of second patterns on said plurality of regions for operation in said key and handwriting modes; wherein said panel comprises: a substrate selected from the group consisting of PCB, membrane and transparent plate; a conductor wiring on said substrate; and an insulator covered on said conductor wiring" have been fully considered, extensively searched in PG PUB, prior arts and are persuasive as they do overcome prior art rejection. The persuasive arguments filed on 03-12-2007 and 05-23-2007; as Claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 were allowed; canceling prior art

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rejected claims 1-3,7-13,17-23,27-33,and 37-40; are sufficient to overcome the prior art rejection; and put application number 10668352 in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant to expedite the instant application allowability; has cancelled claims 1-3,7-13,17-23,27-33,and 37-40. Claims 4-6,14-16,24-26 and 34-36 were allowed. Applicant's arguments filed on 03-12-2007 and 05-23-2007 are convincing. As argued by applicant in remarks under claim rejection on 03-12-2007, page 1-6, and on 05-23-2007, page 1; the prior art of Ichikawa (US2004/0119700 A1), (Moriya et al. (US 2003/0006975 A1) and Westerman et al. (US 2005/0104867 A1) fails to recite or disclose all the other limitations recited in the independent claims with the uniquely distinct features represented by underlined bold claim below;

a first pattern on said panel for representing a mode switch to switch said touchpad between a key mode and a handwriting mode; a plurality of regions defined on said panel; and a plurality of second patterns on said plurality of regions for operation in said key and handwriting modes; wherein said panel comprises: a substrate selected from the group consisting of PCB, membrane and transparent plate; a conductor wiring on said substrate; and an insulator covered on said conductor wiring.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Prabodh M Dharia whose telephone number is 571-272-7668.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8AM to 5PM.

7. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

8. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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Prabodh Dharia

Partial Signatory Authority

AU2629

June 27, 2007



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